

Taber Free Press

VOL. 1, NO. 35

TABER, ALBERTA, THURSDAY, OCTOBER 17, 1907

\$1.50 YEARLY

Drs. Lang & Leech
Physicians, Surgeons, Accoucheurs
Consultation: 10 to 12, 2 to 5, 7 to 8
W. H. LANG, M.D. West second st. north
G. W. LEECH, M.D. 2nd door E Union hotel
Office Douglas Block

P. Wallace, B.C.L.
Barrister, Solicitor, Notary Public
Solicitor for the Eastern Townships
Bank Loans and Insurance

America Cafe and Bakery
P. N. BOURDAGES, Proprietor
Short Order house for travelling men
Meals and Lunches all the time

W. BRUSH CRUBB
Insurance: Fire, Life, Accident
Reeves Traction Engines.
REAL ESTATE

Hanson & Birch
Plastering Contractors
Estimates given for all classes
of work in this line. All work
done in a satisfactory manner

Notice !!

Do You Know
Why you should buy land in
Taber District, or lots in the
Town of Taber?

Do You Know
What is coming to Taber and
this District during the next
eighteen months?

Ask Us
And we will tell you some-
thing that may interest you.

M. C. Knowles
LANDS
INVESTMENTS
At Royal Hotel, Taber, Alberta.

HEAD OFFICE:
Duluth Minnesota

JOE HOW
Restaurant

ough Street, Taber.

**Fruit,
Bakery,
Confectionery.**

Open Night and Day

**Don't Freeze
Next Winter !**

Call and see our lines of
Cook Stoves, Ranges,
and Heaters.

Hot Water and Hot Air
Furnaces Installed.

**Shiells The
Tinner**

Hard Times

FOR THE MAN WHO HAS BEEN
KNOCKING THE COUNTRY.

The results of harvesting operations in Sunny Southern Alberta must make the pessimist who has been knocking the country feel as though he were the victim of a cruel joke. During each day of the week we have seen returns noted in the columns of the Press indicating that the anticipated failure of the crop on account of frost and unfavourable weather was far from realized. On the contrary, it is only necessary for one to pick up any Western newspaper in Southern Alberta is a record one and contradicts the malicious libels which knockers are circulating in those States from which Alberta derives not a few of her settlers. In fact, the frantic efforts which have been made to check the great exodus from the Western States are receiving severe blows as the crop reports are inspected.

The Literary Association

One of the evidences of the progressive spirit of the young people of Taber is to be found in the establishment of a Literary Association, the first meeting of which will be held on Friday evening in Knox Church. More than usual enthusiasm is being manifested in connection with the initial meeting, inasmuch as it is to take the form of a conundrum social. The very mention of the words "conundrum social" is the augury of a good time, and creates a suggestion of a style of fun that it something out of the ordinary, and these who will have the good fortune to attend will have their powers of guessing quickened, and their faculties for solving the intricate question of life will be more acute. A good program, consisting of solos by Miss Keely and Dr. Lang, choruses and an inaugural address by the President, will help the evening pass pleasantly; but the climax of satisfaction will be reached when the ladies minister to the hungry desires of those present. We understand the meeting will be open to all, and everyone is given a cordial invitation to be present.

The Salvation Army has brought sixteen thousand immigrants to Canada this year.



Our Custom-Made Suits

'Can't be beat for fit—can't be beat for wear. The collar and shoulders are the most conspicuous features of a coat. You want them right and you want them to stay right; that is where reliable workmanship counts. Order from us and feel the pleasure of knowing that your clothes are correct in every detail.

A. Potter & Co.
Tailors, Clothiers and Outfitters
to men who know

Coal Mining by Electricity

THE CANADA WEST COAL COMPANY
INTRODUCE ELECTRIC DRILLS.

Taber boasts of being the first place in Alberta where drills run by electricity are employed for cutting coal. On Tuesday the Canada West Coal Company started one of their drills, which is run by electricity, and out of an entry in the remarkably short period of fourteen minutes. When one considers that it takes over an hour and a half for the ordinary machine to do this work the marvellousness of the experiment is considerably. Press representative was informed that in the near future five of these machines will be at work and will cut out about one hundred and fifty tons each per shift. Thus, when the mines are running full blast they will turn out over fifteen hundred tons per day.

Big Yield

458 ACRES AT MAGRATH AVERAGED
55 BUSHELS PER ACRE.

(Southern Alberta News.)

George Heathershaw, of Magrath, had some phenomenal yields to tell of in his part of the country, when in the city yesterday.

"What will be the wheat average, taking the whole district?" he was asked.

"Forty-five bushels per acre," he replied.

"That is an enormous yield," was remarked.

"Yes," said Mr. Heathershaw; but there are many yields that beat that. George A. Hacking threshed \$5,000 worth of grain off 130 acres. Charles Harrison threshed 56 bushels per acre off 38 acres. L. H. Jelliff's crop ran over 60 bushels per acre in places, and his whole 458 acres averages 55 bushels per acre. I myself bought a farm last spring partially in crop at \$20 per acre, and it has already paid for itself."

"How about the sugar beet?"

"They are good, too, and next week will see everyone into them."

Traffic Conditions in Western Canada

G. M. BOSWORTH, FOURTH VICE-
PRESIDENT, WILL VISIT WEST.

(Morning Albertan.)

Montreal, Oct. 1st.—Mr. G. M. Bosworth, fourth vice-president of the Canadian Pacific Railway, left to-day on the Imperial Limited on a trip to the Pacific Coast, during which he will make enquiry into the new traffic conditions that have arisen as the result of developments on the system and the recently settled districts. Not only will the facilities for the handling of the crop engage his attention, but the mineral and fruit traffic between British Columbia and the prairies, and the recently established business in connection with the exportation of Alberta wheat to the far east. The new business not only implies the necessity for new facilities for handling it, but newer ways of getting it.

John Mitchell, the president of the United Mine Workers of America, is lying in a critical condition in Indianapolis.

Police Court

In anticipation of the introduction of the cash system by the merchants of Taber, some disbelievers in the system took six pairs of trousers and one pair of blankets from E. S. Bowden's store on Monday night.

When he was going to his work on Tuesday morning W. Mewhinney found the stolen articles near the Enterprise Lumber Co.'s premises, where they had apparently been hid by the thief. Mr. Mewhinney took the goods over to the Royal Hotel and immediately notified Constable Burns. A short time later three men by the name of Chandler, Studworthy and Gibson were seen walking to the place where the articles had been hidden, look around a little, and then walk over to the Royal Hotel. They were arrested as suspects and tried before Magistrate Aubin. The accused said that they had just happened to pass the lumber yard that morning and had nothing to do with the stolen articles. Nothing definite could be proved against the accused except that they had been in the Blue Front Store the night the articles were stolen, and, although suspicion was aroused when they were seen loitering around where the stolen articles had been found, the evidence was merely circumstantial and not sufficient to merit the detention of the suspects. They were allowed to go.

On Wednesday afternoon two men by the name of Studworthy and Chandler appeared before Magistrates Aubin and Layton on a charge of taking goods from the Blue Front Store. They pleaded guilty and were sentenced to three months imprisonment with hard labour.

Petty Thieving.

Joe How, who owns a restaurant on Hough Street, has been missing several spoons at various intervals ever since commencing business last May. He has been keeping a sharp lookout lately, with the result that on Friday night he caught a young boy by the name of John Scott putting a couple of spoons into his pocket. Joe informed Constable Burns, who arrested the boy and imprisoned him for a few hours. It was found that the boy had taken in all about two dozen spoons.

Booming Alberta

AGRICULTURAL DEPARTMENT
ASSISTING THE VARIOUS BOARDS
OF TRADE.

(Calgary Herald.)

The Department of Education, Edmonton, is going to send out a list of the names of enquirers, which was taken at the provincial exhibit during the Toronto and London fairs, to the various boards of trade in Alberta who wish to send out literature.

This is a move in the right direction, and will permit the various boards to put the claims of their district before the prospective settlers, and will help the Department of Agriculture to keep the prospective settler interested in Alberta. The list of names will be sent out as soon as the Department have mailed the provincial pamphlets to them.

Mrs. Fred Stevens, nee Bess Jones, was arrested at Loombe on Monday for bigamy. It is claimed that she left her husband and went to the States, where she married another man.

An Extensive Line of Compasses for Land Seekers Goggles and Eye Protectors for Threshers

**The Alberta Drug & Stationery Co
Limited.**
Near Royal Hotel

Eastern Townships Bank.

CAPITAL, \$3,000,000 RESERVE, \$1,500,000
57 branches and agencies in Canada. 48 years in operation
General Banking Business Conducted
ACCOUNTS SOLICITED
Drafts Sold in all parts of the World
Money orders payable in any bank in Canada (Yukon excepted) United States, England, Scotland, at following rates:
\$5 and under, 03 \$10 to \$30, 10c
\$30 to \$100, 06 \$30 to \$50, 15c
Impossible to lose your money in transmitting it by this method
Taber Branch, C. E. Moe, Manager

"THE PIONEER MERCHANTS."

By trading with us, you save time, worry and money.
All orders are promptly filled and delivered.
Our goods are always clean, fresh and up-to-date, and the prices are continually right.
For cash, we are offering a few lines of our high grade goods at extremely low prices. We will take great pleasure in showing you these goods. Ask to see them.
Our constant aim and desire is to please and accommodate the public.

The Busy Corner Douglas & Co.

A choice selection of
FARM LANDS & CITY PROPERTY
See us for Woven Wire Fences, etc.

**Westlake &
Standerwick**

Big tracts of land \$6.50 per acre up.
EASY TERMS.

Harness Works

Harness, saddles, whips, robes, blankets and everything for your horse. Special attention given to orders of all kinds

E. N. Harding Co.
Agents for the famous Best Vapor Gas Light Co

W. H. BALDREY

PAINTER & DECORATOR

Jones & Squires

Painters, Paper Hangers, Sign
Writers. Estimates free

of the discipline of failure."

Marion Robertson

Coal City, Alta., the New Coal Town

30 miles east of Lethbridge, 80 miles west of Medicine Hat.

Watch her grow. Get in on the ground floor. Buy your lots now, they will double in value in sixty days. In less than two years Coal City will have a population of 2,000 people. Lots will be worth from \$300 to \$1,000 in less than twelve months. Coal City has five operating coal mines shipping from 10 to 150 tons daily of the best coal in Alberta, and several more to open up at once. All these mines will increase their output as rapidly as possible. Coal City will be working 200 miners before Jan. 1, 1908, with a pay roll of \$18,200 per month. I will sell lots on easy terms until Oct. 15th only. Call in to the Blue Front Store and secure your lots and make money on their advance in value on Oct. 15.

E. S. BOWDEN

Call and Inspect Our Stock

Of Bedsteads, Springs and Mattresses, Bedding, Blankets, Comforters, Etc.

Household Furniture, Sewing Machines and Organs.

Carpets and Linoleums.

Washers and Wringers.

Taber Furniture Co.

For

Drugs, Toilet Preparations, School Supplies

Go to the
TABER DRUGSTORE
South of Track

Magazines and Novels.
Finest Selected Chocolates.

Ervine & Todd

AGENTS FOR

Cockshut Pumps, Windmills, etc.

Deering Harvesting Machines.

Canadian Port Huron Co.
Engines & Threshers

The Hotel Royal

J. K. Irving, Proprietor

Rates \$1.50 to \$2 per day

Good accommodation for commercial men and the public.

The leading house of Taber.

Depew & Veale

CONTRACTORS & BUILDERS

Taber, Alberta

MEALS AT ALL HOURS

Luncheon Prepared for Travelers and Home-keepers

Give us a Call

Jas. E. Milligan.

Taber Free Press

Advertising Rates on Application
Subscription \$1.50 yearly, in advance
W. A. M. Bellwood, editor and manager

THURSDAY, OCT. 17, 1907

Notes and Comments

"If petty thieving keeps up Taber will soon need a reformatory."

The pound-by-law has made a marked difference to Taber's appearance.

Judging from the petty thieving going on in town, there are several people at least who do not believe in the cash system.

After seeing the potatoes on exhibition in G. C. Millar's estate office, one must be convinced that this is a good country for mixed farming.

When 458 acres near Magrath averaged 56 bushels per acre, it doesn't speak much for the veracity of the newspapers in the Western States, which say our crops were a failure.

The Government has not yet decided where to locate their reformatory. If petty thieving continues among the younger generation of Taber, we might persuade the Government to place it here.

The Cash System.

The merchants of Taber have issued circular letters to their customers, notifying them that on and after Nov. 1st they will sell their goods only for cash or produce. In a former edition of the Free Press we commended this action of our merchants and pointed out the advantages of the cash system. Our attention has been called, however, to a possible result of introducing the cash system, and that is that the people will now send away for their goods to some place where they can get them cheaper. If they have to pay cash anyway they might as well get their goods where they can get them for the least money. Unless our merchants, therefore, can sell just as cheap, or cheaper, than large outside houses, a lot of money will be sent away from town. In order to use our influence to avert such outside trade, we beg to present our readers with ten reasons why they should patronize local merchants. This article is taken from an exchange.

Because you examine your purchase and are assured of satisfaction before investing your money.

Because your merchant is always ready and willing to make right any error or any defective article purchased of him.

Because when you are sick, or for any reason it is necessary for you to ask for credit, you could go to a local merchant. Could you ask it of a small order house?

Because, if a merchant is willing to extend your credit, you should give him the benefit of your cash trade.

Because your home merchants pay local taxes and exert every effort to build and better your market, thus increasing both the value of the city and country property.

Because the mail-order merchant does not lighten your taxes or is any

way uphold the value of your property.

Because, if your town is good enough to live in, it is good enough to spend money in.

Because the best citizens in your community patronize home industry. Why not be one of the best citizens?

Because, if you give your home merchant an opportunity to compete by bringing your order to him in the quantities you buy out of town, he will demonstrate that, quality considered, he will save you money.

The following anecdote will tend to show that there is, after all, very little advantage in dealing with a mail order house:

A man went into a hardware store to buy an axe. Being shown the article and informed that the price was \$1.15, he said, "Why, I can get that axe from a mail order house for 90 cents."

"Very well," said the hardware man, "I will give it to you for the same price, provided that you will do the same with me as you would do with them."

"All right," replied the customer, as he handed over a dollar bill, and the merchant gave him back 10 cts. in change.

"Now," said the hardware man, "I want 25 cents more to pay express charges," which the customer gave him. "How much did your axe cost you?"

"One dollar and fifteen cents," the man answered.

"Very good; now give me five cts. for money order fees and postage," which the purchaser had to hand over. "Now, how much did your axe cost you?"

"One dollar and twenty cents," said the customer.

"Not so very cheap after all," said the merchant, whereupon he picked up the axe, tossed it back on the shelf and told the customer to call for it in ten days, as that would be as soon as he could get it from the mail order house.

Taber's Publicity.

Taber needs more publicity. It is true that it is the most-talked-of town on the Crow's Nest, but this is by those who have had the privilege of seeing it. There are many people who hear of Taber from others, or see its name in the newspapers, who look on the map of Southern Alberta and, like poor Mother Hubbard's bone, it is not there. Even the time table of the C.P.R. does not mention Taber, and its map does not show its location, while places like Wetmore, Chin, Woodpecker are marked. Why is this? One reason is because Taber is a comparatively new place. But because it is new is no reason why it should not be recognized. Its growth has been phenomenal. Its population doubles every year. Next year it will be as large as Lethbridge. It will have more miners and better mines. It will have electric lights and waterworks. But will it be the railway? Will anyone know whether the road runs through it or not? Will the attention of the people who are unfamiliar with our resources and blind to our importance have their eyes opened? These are practical questions. There is a need to ask them. There is need to remind the Board of Trade that it is still extant and there is still important work for it to do.

Gold Cure Compulsory

Edmonton, Oct. 11th.—The announcement may be made very soon of the decision of the Provincial Government to make it compulsory for every person committed to the jails of the province on the charge of drunkenness to take the "gold cure." This policy has been adopted in Quebec, and is reported to have done a great deal towards advancing the cause of temperance, many confirmed drunkards having straightened up for fear they might be committed and forced to take the cure, while others that could not restrain themselves were sent to jail and the cure administered.

CHURCH NOTICES

Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints—Sunday school at 10 a. m., every Sunday. Sacrament meeting at 2 p. m. Sunday evening service at 8 p. m.

Young Ladies' Mutual Improvement Association every Tuesday at 7.30 p. m. Primary Association every Saturday at 3 p. m.

Knox church—Morning service at 11 a. m. followed by Sunday School and Bible class. Evening service 7.30. Wednesday Congregational Prayer Meeting, 8 p. m.

St. Theodore Church—The services at the English Church until further notice will be as follows:—Sunday school at 3 p. m. every Sunday. Evening service at 7.30.

Baptist Service—A Baptist service will be held on Sunday afternoon at 3 o'clock in the Presbyterian church. All welcome.

If you are going to Build, or require anything in the

WOOD - WORKING - LINE,

Call and get prices from

MACDONALD & ROBINSON

BUILDING CONTRACTORS

Opposite McLaughlin and McIntyre's Blacksmith Shop

Important!

Why pay rent, when, for a trifle you can purchase a large building lot on the

Johnson Addition

near the big mine of the Canada West Coal & Coke Co., and close to the pipe line. If you want a home of your own, where you can have the best garden, etc., now is your opportunity. You will never again buy as cheap.

A. Johnson, Agent.

SYNOPSIS OF
CANADIAN NORTH-WEST
HOMESTEAD REGULATIONS.

ANY even numbered section of Dominion Lands lying in Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta, 20 or more acres in extent, not less than 100 acres in extent, and not more than 160 acres in extent, may be purchased by any person who is the sole head of a family, or is a male over 16 years of age, to the extent of one-quarter section of 160 acres, more or less.

Application for entry must be made in person by the applicant to the Dominion Lands Agency, or Sub-Agency for the district in which the land is situated. Entry by proxy may, however, be made by an Agent on certain conditions by the father, mother, son, daughter, brother or sister of an intending homesteader.

The homesteader is required to perform the homestead duties under one of the following plans:

(1) At least six months residence upon and cultivation of the land in each year for three years.

(2) A homesteader may, if he so desires, perform the required residence duties by living on farming land owned solely by him, or by his wife, or by his minor children, in the vicinity of his homestead. In such cases the homesteader must perform his residence duties by living with the father or mother.

(3) If the father or mother, if the father is deceased of a homesteader, that permanent residence is established in the vicinity of the land, not less than 10 miles in a direct line, exclusive of the width of road allowances crossed in the measurement.

(4) A homesteader intending to perform his residence duties in accordance with the above while living with parents, or on farming land owned by himself, must notify the Agent for the district of his intention.

Six months' notice in writing must be given to the Commissioner of Dominion Lands & Ottawa of intention to apply for patent.

W. W. CORVY,

Deputy of the Minister for the Interior.

N.B.—Unauthorized publication of this advertisement will not be paid for.

Mormons Expelled from Saxony

Dresden, Saxony, October 4th.—Three Americans, Mormons, have been expelled from Germany because they persisted, despite final warnings prohibiting them, from spreading their propaganda in conducting river baptisms and making converts. They were arrested and summarily taken under guard to the frontier.

The Medicine Hat News says: "The Taber Town Council has decided that the hotel here must be closed on Sundays, and yet this is supposed to be a free country."

Canada West Coal & Coke Co., Ltd.

Best Coal on the market and a good steam producer for Stationary Boilers

Taber Meat Market

Fresh and salt meats of all kinds—Fish in season, butter, lard and fresh sausage, lamb and mutton

J. B. Jett & Co

Taber, Alberta

Enterprise Lumber Co.

Building Material of Every Kind
Massey-Harris Farm Machinery

Agent, J. Barton

For business lots and residential lots in the water belt.

SEE

W. W. Douglas

Prices and terms to suit everybody.
Money to loan to assist in improving these properties.

Rogers Cunningham Lumber Co., Limited

Successors to George Rogers

Builders' Supplies

of Every Description, Wholesale and Retail
Lumber, Shingles, Doors, Windows
Moulding, Lime, Lath, Tar Paper
Building Paper, Cedar Fence Posts

J. F. Glaysher, Agent

Yard Along Track, East of Station

Vickery & Co.

GROCERIES, HARDWARE, CROCKERY, ETC.

FALL ANNOUNCEMENT

WE HAVE purchased the entire stock of Musical Instruments, Sewing Machines, Etc., of Mr. D. L. Kimball and will sell at low prices to clear.

We have also got in our new stock of Overcoats, Suits, Boots and Shoes which have been carefully selected to suit the requirements of the Miners and Farmers.

Call and inspect our stock.

Vickery & Co., - Cash Buyers Union.

The Marathon Mystery

A Story of Manhattan

By BURTON E. STEVENSON
Author of "The Ballade Case"

Copyright, 1904, by Henry Holt and Company

(Continued)

"Did you not hit him?" asked Simmonds.

"I don't know. I think not. He showed no signs of being wounded."

Simmonds stood looking at her. Godfrey turned to an examination of the opposite wall.

"Miss Crofton's shot went wild," he said, curiously elated at this confirmation of her story. "Here's the bullet," and he pointed to it imbedded in the woodwork of the bedroom door.

Simmonds took a look at it, then he returned to the inquiry.

"Did you know this intruder?" he asked.

"No, sir. I've never before seen him," she answered steadily.

"Will you describe him?"

She closed her eyes, seemingly in an effort at recollection.

"He was a short, heavy set man. He said at last, 'with a dark face and dark moustache, which turned up at the ends. That is all I can remember.'"

"And dressed how?"

"In dark clothes. He wore a slouch hat, I think drawn down over the eyes. I didn't see the face clearly."

The answer came with a hesitation, but it seemed to Godfrey that there was in the voice an accent of forced secrecy.

"What did he do with the bar of iron?" asked Simmonds.

"As soon as he struck the blow, I think he threw it out. I remember hearing it fall."

"Yes—here it is," said Godfrey triumphantly, and flung it out under a chair which stood near the wall.

"But see, Simmonds, it's not a bar, it's a pipe."

Simmonds examined it. It was an ordinary piece of iron piping about fifteen inches in length.

"Her story seems to be straight," he said in an undertone to Godfrey.

"What do you think about it?"

"I think she's perfectly innocent of any crime," answered Godfrey, with conviction. He had his doubts as to the absolute straightness of her story, but he concluded to keep them to himself.

"Well, there's nothing more to be learned out here," remarked Simmonds, after another glance around.

"Suppose we take a look at the other room," said he, and he led the way toward the latter door.

It was an ordinary bedroom of moderate size and with a single closet, in which a few soiled clothes were hanging. The bed had been lain upon, and evidently by a person fully dressed, for there were marks of muddy shoes upon the counterpane, fresh marks of one who had come in during the evening's storm. An empty whisky bottle lay on a little table near the bed.

"I guess Thompson was a boozier," observed Simmonds.

"Yes," agreed Godfrey, "his face showed that pretty plainly."

"Well, the man we're after isn't here; we'll have to search the house."

"Can't we let Miss Crofton go home? She won't run away—I'll answer for that. Besides, there's nothing against her."

Simmonds pondered a minute.

"Yes, I suppose so," he said at last. "Of course she'll have to answer at the inquest. Do you know her address?"

"Yes; 21 East Sixty-ninth street."

Simmonds jotted it down in his notebook.

"All right," he said. "You'd better take her down to her cab."

"I'll see her down to her cab. What are you going to do?"

"I'm going to quiz the janitor and then search the house. Maybe the other fellow hasn't had a chance to get away yet. I wonder what's going on out there?" he added as they returned together to the other room.

They could hear a commotion of some sort in the hall, the noise of many voices, the shuffling of many feet.

The commotion swelled to an uproar as Simmonds opened the door and closed it quickly behind him. Godfrey heard his voice raised in angry expostulation, and he chuckled grimly to himself as he turned to Miss Crofton.

He gazed at her with interest, searching for the first time to surprise her secret—at the best head, with its crown of dark hair, shadowed by a little velvet hat, at the rounded arms, the graceful figure.

He paused yet a moment, looking at her, at the slender hands, the little ear, and he pictured to himself what her training had been, how she had been fenced away from the rough places of the world, the unpleasant things of life.

Certainly she could never have committed such a crime as this or even conceived it.

Yet she had lied—deliberately, and distinctly she had lied. She had told him that she had never before seen the dead man. She had told Simmonds just the opposite. What was the truth? Doubtless the first. Her first impulse would be to speak the truth. Afterward, at leisure for a moment, she had questioned her agent, and then she had lied, and had uttered it with surprising calmness.

"May I say you to your cab, Miss Crofton?" he asked.

"To my cab?" she repeated, half rising.

"Yes, to your cab."

"I shall," she agreed instantly.

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LETTING A FLAT.

The Agent Found Them Two Sides to the Question.

The agent of the building did not like the looks of the man who wanted to see the second floor flat.

"We require the payment of the rental monthly in advance, of course," he said.

"They will be all right," answered the man. "The rooms suit me, and I am willing to pay a year in advance if necessary."

"No objection to me, perhaps? There's a piano on the first floor and a harp and other on the third. I am fond of all kinds of music."

"We don't take renters who have children, you know?"

"We haven't any. My family consists of my wife, myself and a grown son."

"Also we require the best of references."

"Here they are."

The agent looked at them and handed them back.

"They are all right. I'll have to let you in. You are fortunate, Mr. Spence, in getting the apartment at this price."

"Nobility there, eh? I'll be here. I have had all the rooms thoroughly cleaned."

"Does old Hanks own this building?"

"Certainly, I was saying."

"Great Scott! The only object I have in moving is to get out of one of old Hanks' apartment houses. I wouldn't have moved here if I hadn't been told that you had all the rooms thoroughly cleaned."

"Morning, sir."

"The Strawberry."

It was First Cultivated by a Blind King of Hungary.

Where Epesides, the picturesque Hungarian town, is now surrounded by beautiful gardens and fruited fields there was at the time of King Bela II, nothing but thick wilderness.

Once the king had seen the strawberry was traveling in his realm. It was a hot, sultry summer day, and while searching for the strawberry he was in the green grass in the cool shade of big old trees, and then the cavaliers separated to hunt for a refreshing spring.

He came back, and he wanted to find out more about his resting place and began to grope about him with his hands. They were only in the soft, green grass in the cool shade of big old trees, and then the cavaliers separated to hunt for a refreshing spring.

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Ain to Love

By LOUISE MERRIFIELD.

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The door of room 14, primary department, opened very slowly, very cautiously, and a small, anxious, freckled face peered in. Miss Orvis turned from the blackboard at a smooth giggle from the children and saw the freckled face.

"Come in, Hardy," the curving line of her pretty, sympathetic mouth straightened with sudden determination. It was the fourth time that week that Hardy Andrews had come in late, and even the children were beginning to look upon it as a joke.

Discipline must be enforced, even when the delinquent is only seven and a half. Miss Orvis left the blackboard and opened the door to Hardy.

"Yes, ma'am," Hardy happily. "It's the fourth time this week, Hardy. Have you any excuse?"

"None," Hardy replied. "I was over the top of the other side, and I tried to jam his stockinet cap into his dress trousers pocket."

"Why didn't your mother write one for you?"

"It was so still in the large, sunny schoolroom, you could hear the clock tick high up on the wall and the buzzing of the flies over near the open window where the rows of geraniums stood, but slowly the color mounted to Hardy's little, freckled face, and after a minute he looked up at Miss Orvis, his big blue eyes filled with a half apologetic bewilderment.

"I never had any mother." The silence was broken when, Miss Orvis heard her breath and looked at the rest of the children to see what horrible effect the announcement had made on them, but they were only interested and joyous over the diversion. Hardy caught the look and hastened to cover his mistake.

"But I got a father, Miss Orvis, all right. I'm Reddy Lane's kid, and Reddy's a watchman over on the bridge at night, and he don't get home till about midnight. He's a good fellow, and that's why I'm late, 'cause I like to have breakfast with him."

Miss Orvis hesitated, but the blue eyes pleaded their case, and she smiled as she laid one hand on Reddy Lane's kid's head.

But somehow all the morning she caught herself musing on the child who had no mother. It was a tragedy, of course—some story, tear wringing tale of the great city's underworld and only this bit of wreckage left to tell the story. Tears welled to her own lashes none of the least, as she recalled Hardy's small, eager face, so trusting and foolishly happy when he had nothing in the whole world to be happy for except the mere fact that he was alive.

As the lines were forming at noon she touched Hardy on the shoulder and said to him to write a minute at her desk, and the little fellow obeyed, watching the rest of the boys proudly from his post on teacher's chair. And when all was still in the great building, Miss Orvis came back and took him on her lap.

"Your papa's a watchman, you say, dear, over on the bridge?" she began, but Hardy interposed hastily.

"No, no, my father—that's Reddy Lane's father."

"Founding kid, Reddy says, and his mother rented me, and then she died, and Reddy adopted me his own self, so now I'm his kid."

"Oh, I see," Miss Orvis leaned back in her chair and gazed at the cheerful little face. And you and Reddy live on Cherry street?"

"Yes, we got a room with the Battertons, a whole room of our own, but for Reddy's father he had the Battertons have only got one room left for their own selves, and there's six of 'em."

"You don't say so," Miss Orvis caught the lonesome little figure close to her arms. "Is Reddy good to you?"

"You bet he is," came the smothered gasp from her shoulder. "He never hits me, and he takes me out on the big bridge with him nights and lets me have a light on the river and the boats and the trains and everything. He's fine to me. When I said you were his mother, he was late, he said it was a—shame."

There was a sudden noise at the door behind them, a queer hasty noise, half a cough, half a choked explosion of laughter, and Miss Orvis stood up quickly.

"Hello, this is teacher."

It was the only introduction they ever had, those two, and neither ever forgot the moment. Flushing to the point of her hair, Hardy and Reddy Orvis saw before her Reddy Lane of Cherry street. He was tall and broad shouldered, his watchman's uniform gleaming with brass buttons, with a mouth like a grin and a pair of fair, curly, curly lips.

"Reddy, this is teacher."

"Yes, ma'am," Hardy happily. "It's the fourth time this week, Hardy. Have you any excuse?"

"None," Hardy replied. "I was over the top of the other side, and I tried to jam his stockinet cap into his dress trousers pocket."

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